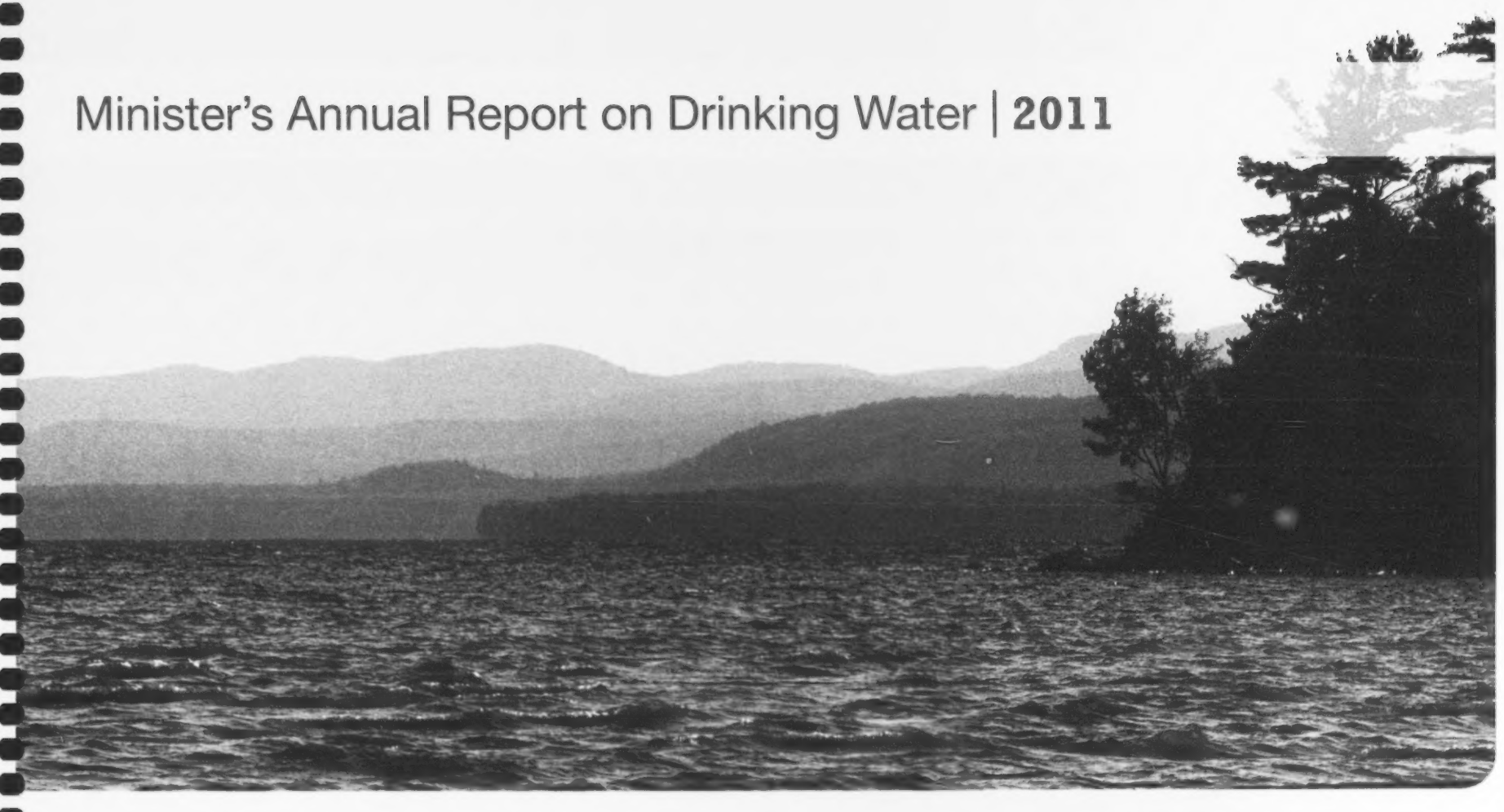
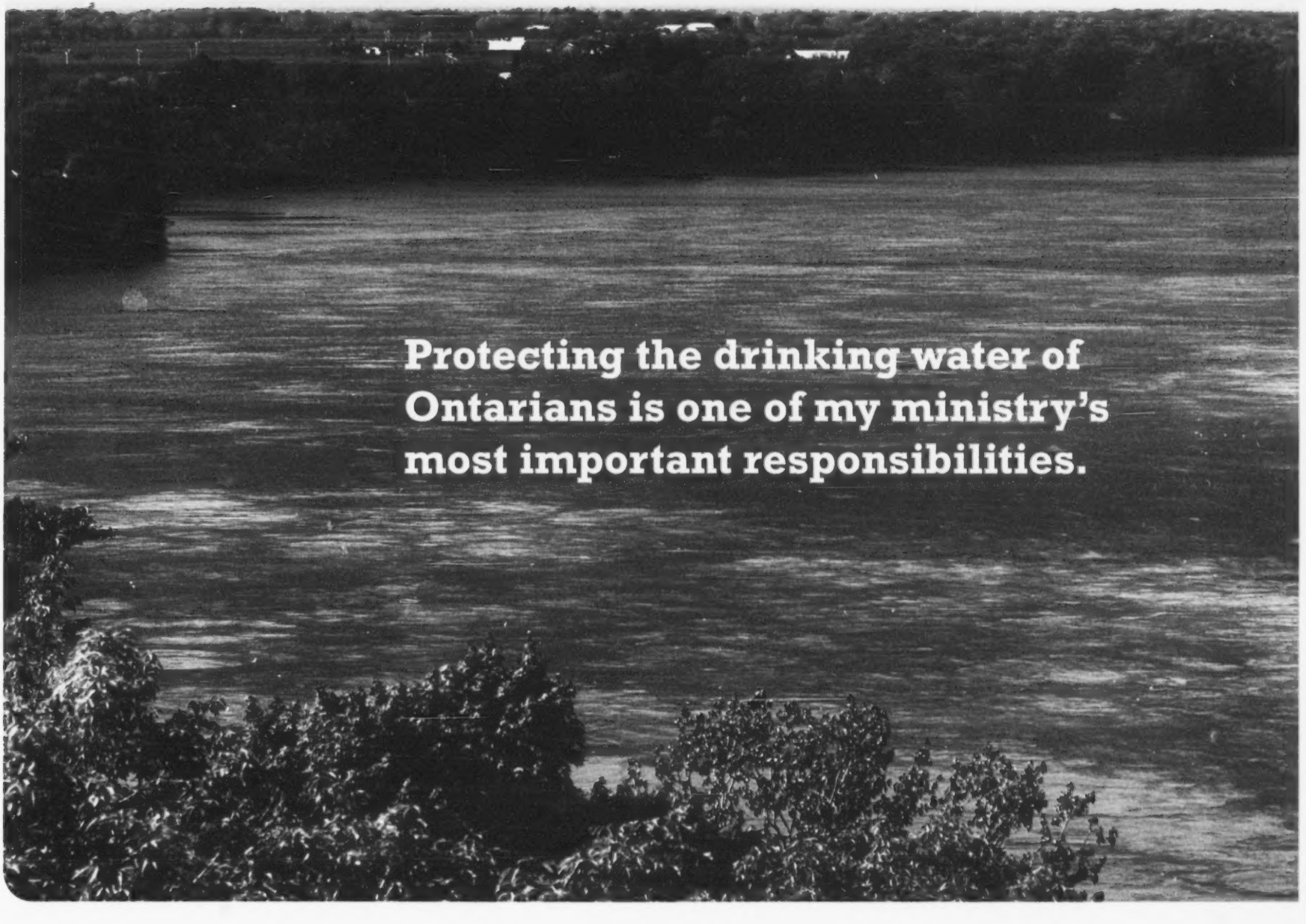
Minister's Annual Report on Drinking Water | **2011**



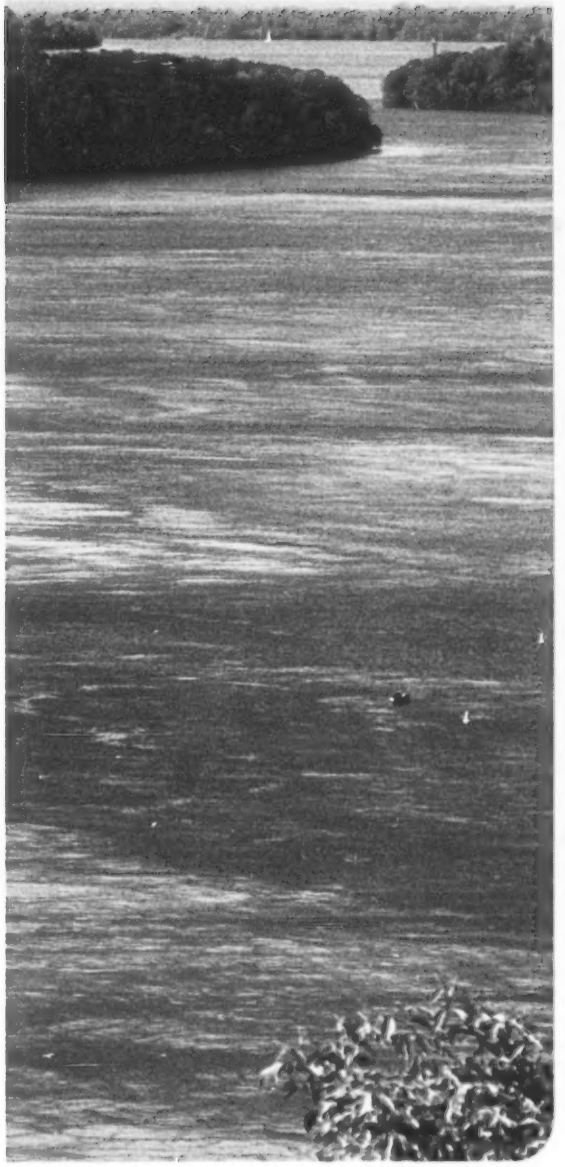
Ontario


Protecting the drinking water of
Ontarians is one of my ministry's
most important responsibilities.

Introduction

Welcome to the Minister's Annual Report on Drinking Water 2011.

I am pleased to present our key achievements on protecting Ontario's drinking water, steps we have taken to help make sure we can provide clean, reliable and safe drinking water for our children and grandchildren.



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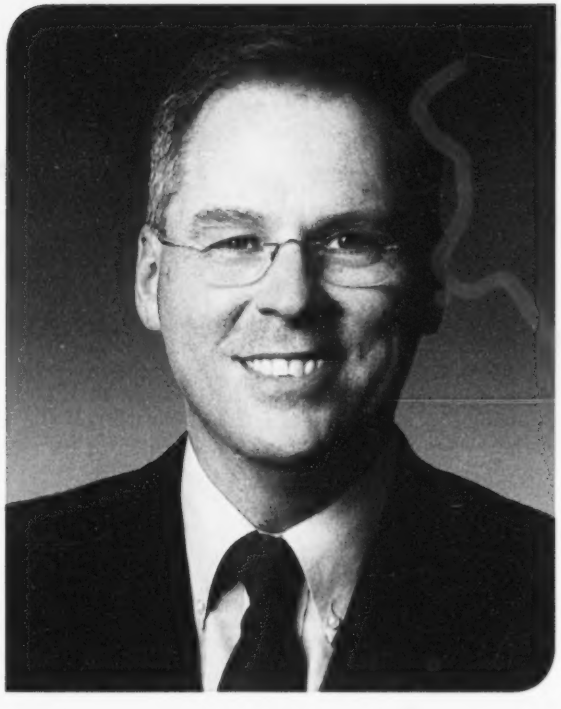
MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Clean water is absolutely vital to our health and well being. That's why we are committed to making sure that Ontario's drinking water is among the best protected in the world, and we are working hard to keep it that way.

Ontarians are entitled to expect that the water they use and rely on every day is safe, and I am pleased to report that our citizens can continue to have confidence in this essential resource. In his recently released 2009-2010 annual report, the Chief Drinking Water Inspector states that 99.88 per cent of drinking water tests from municipal residential systems met the ministry's stringent standards.

Clean water is also a key element of our province's economy and our Open Ontario Plan. In 2010, we set a goal to make the province a North American leader in the development and sale of new technologies and services for water conservation and treatment. We have extensive knowledge and expertise in water technologies and the ability to safeguard our water resources.

For these reasons, the Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act was passed by the Ontario Legislature in November 2010. This groundbreaking act sets the framework for positioning Ontario as a leader in developing water technologies, creating more clean water jobs and making our expertise available globally.

Programs are underway that support initiatives related to the act, such as the third phase of the Ontario Small Waterworks Assistance Program which helps small municipalities improve water conservation and efficiency. Our new program, Showcasing Water Innovation, will help communities fund innovative and cost-effective approaches for managing their drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems.

Naturally, we cannot do any of this important and relevant work without a strong focus on conservation. Water is a finite resource, and it must be treated with care and respect.

Our continued success is a direct result of our network of partnerships and the dedication of the owners and operators of Ontario's drinking water systems. Our partners include municipalities, industry, academia, local conservation authorities, First Nations, non-governmental groups and citizens. Your commitment is critical to our mission of providing safe drinking water for all Ontarians and I thank you for your outstanding efforts to date as part of this mission.

I look forward to a bright future that helps safeguard our water and leads us to new, exciting opportunities in drinking water protection.

The Honourable John Wilkinson
Minister of the Environment
Government of Ontario
July 2011

Taking Care of Our Drinking Water

Protecting Ontario's water from the source to the tap

Ontario has more than a quarter of a million lakes, rivers and streams, and abundant groundwater supplies. Our fresh water is naturally plentiful but we cannot take our water for granted. We are working hard to protect its quality and ensure there is a better understanding of what is at stake — to continue to provide clean, reliable and safe drinking water for our children and grandchildren.

We have established a world-class safety net to protect your drinking water from source-to-tap.

Key Achievement

Ontario's 19 locally-based source protection committees, representing hundreds of local stakeholders, have completed work on assessment reports that identify risks to drinking water in their watershed so that they can plan strategies for mitigation or elimination of the risks.

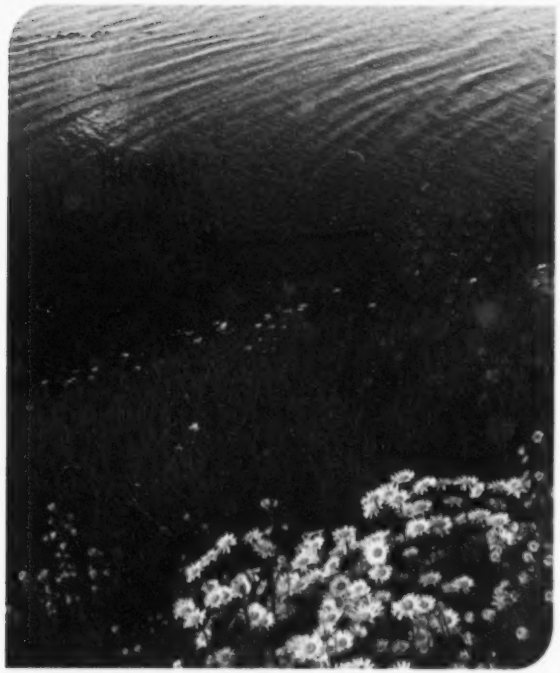
"The completion of the assessment reports signifies an important milestone in the program. These documents represent thousands of hours of scientific investigation and are critical to the next phase — the development of source protection plans."

— Lynn Dollin, Chair, South Georgian Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region.

Update on First Nations Participation in Drinking Water Source Protection Planning

First Nations are crucial partners in protecting our drinking water sources. Under the Clean Water Act, First Nations with a reserve in a source protection area or region have several opportunities to participate in the source protection planning process.

- Representatives of First Nations are participating on local source protection committees providing insight and perspective to the work on protecting water supplies.
- Three First Nations communities have passed a Band Council Resolution to have their drinking water sources protected under the source protection planning process: Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River and the Rama First Nation.
- Alderville First Nation has received funding to better facilitate their participation in the source protection planning process, including activities such as reviewing assessment reports and source protection plans, and consulting with elders in the community regarding source protection planning activities.



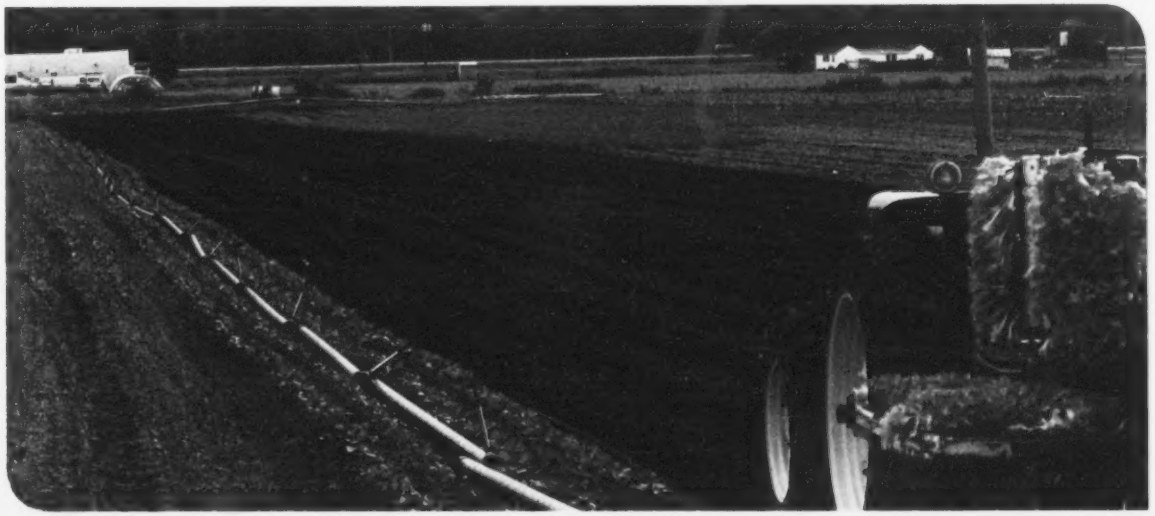
Source protection committees — bringing together local champions

The first step in protecting our drinking water is source protection of our surface water and groundwater to help ensure our drinking water is of the highest quality. The 19 locally-based source protection committees bring together representatives of municipalities, farmers, industry and the general public, adding up to more than 300 people collaborating to protect our water supplies. All committees have made good progress completing the first two key milestones — Terms of Reference and their risk assessments of drinking water sources. These assessment reports identify current and future risks to raw water sources. They also lay the foundation for the preparation of source protection plans that highlight actions to address the most significant risks.

The committees are now preparing source protection plans, the third key milestone, which are due by August 2012. When implemented, they will strengthen the first barrier of defense by increasing the protection of drinking water sources. The objective of these plans is to make sure our water supplies are safe and sustainable now and into the future.

Empowering landowners to protect their drinking water sources

Many property owners located near drinking water wells and intakes want to do the right thing and supporting them is pivotal in the protection of our water sources. Through the **Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program**, we have provided funding for over 2,000 projects to date, such as upgrading septic systems and wells. During 2010-11, further support was channeled into this effort to support early source protection initiatives that address identified risks. Through this program we have enabled farmers, property owners, municipalities and businesses across Ontario to take action to protect local drinking water sources.



You *Can* Make a Difference

Do your part — protect our water sources.

- Never put anything down the sink you wouldn't want to drink
- Bring your expired and unused medicine to your local pharmacy for disposal — don't flush it away
- Storm drains are for rain — not paint and oil as they feed directly into our drinking water sources

Partners link on agriculture and water protection in Oxford County

Oxford County, known for its strong agricultural roots, is the site of a special project involving innovative nitrogen management strategies that will help reduce nitrate levels in the local groundwater supplies. The Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program provided $186,000 in funding in February 2009 so the County and its partners could look at ways to use new and existing technologies for reducing nitrogen contamination by finding the best possible match for application of fertilizers with crop uptake. The project was recently completed and a summary of findings can be found at **www.thamesriver.on.ca/Downloads/images/thorntonwellproject.pdf**.

This is a great example of partners working collaboratively to protect our drinking water sources. The project includes researchers from the universities of Waterloo and Guelph, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Conservation authority staff monitoring source water.

Keeping a watchful eye: Monitoring the quality of Ontario's source water

Our water quality monitoring programs provide valuable information that helps us protect water quality. You can find out more about the quality of Ontario's source water through the Water Quality in Ontario Report, which contains water quality information on Ontario's fresh water sources — lakes, rivers and groundwater. To read the report, go to **www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STD01_078821.html**.

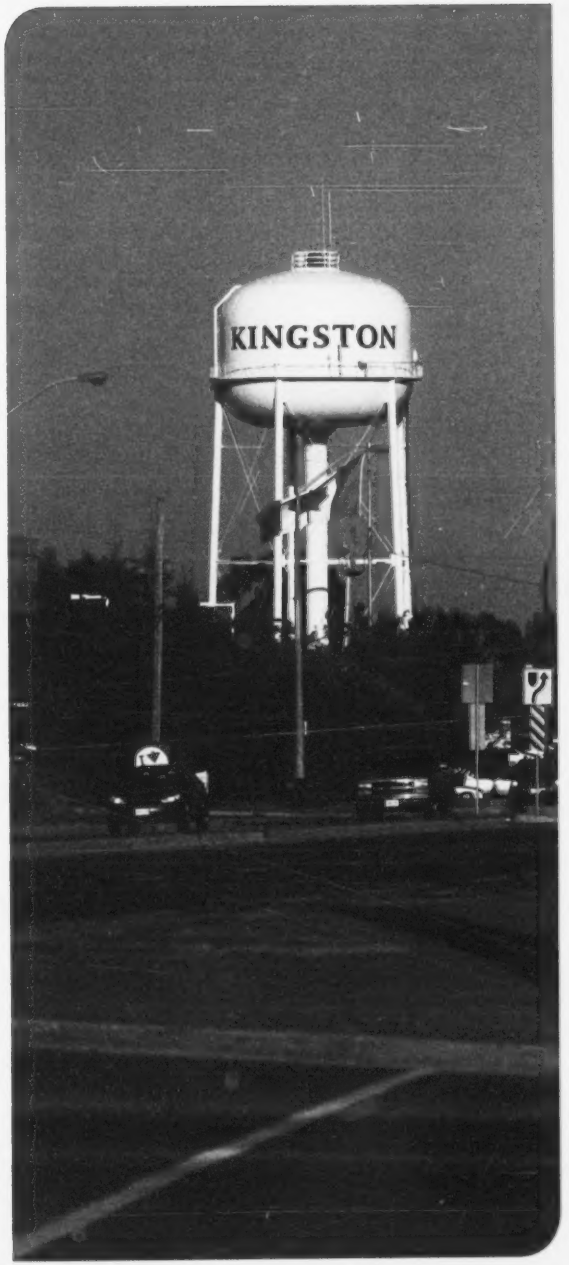
Other publicly accessible sources can be found at:

- Great Lakes Monitoring Program — **www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/water/greatlakes/index.php**
- Provincial (Stream) Water Quality Monitoring Network Program — **www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/collection/data_downloads/index.htm** and **www.ene.gov.on.ca/programs/5310e.htm**
- Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network Program — **www.ene.gov.on.ca/programs/5311e.htm**
- Drinking Water Surveillance Program — **www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/publications/dataproducts** and **www.ontario.ca/dwsp**
- Inland Lakes Monitoring Program — **www.desc.ca**
- Lake Partner Program — **www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/collection/data_downloads/index.htm** and **www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/water/lakepartner/index.php**
- Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network — **www.svca.on.ca/download/benthos**
- Contaminants in Sport Fish Monitoring Program — **www.ontario.ca/fishguide**
- Conservation Ontario — **www.conservationontario.ca/source_protection/otherswpregionsindex.htm**

Making sure municipalities continue to have the tools they need to deliver safe and clean drinking water

We have made excellent progress implementing Ontario's groundbreaking **Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program** — the first of its kind in North America. It is mandatory for owners of municipal drinking water systems to obtain a licence. To get a licence, municipal owners must develop and implement a rigorous Operational Plan that encompasses many key aspects of the management of a drinking water system including treatment of the water that enters the system and how the system is operated and maintained; owners must also undertake financial planning to ensure that it is sustainable.

As of March 31, 2011, all facilities have been issued draft licences and 327 final licences have also been issued to 142 owners of municipal drinking water systems. Municipalities indicate that the program has provided them with an excellent tool for transferring knowledge, increasing internal communications, and identifying more efficient procedures relating to the delivery of safe, high quality, clean drinking water.



The first program of its kind in North America — all municipal owners will be licensed by fall 2011.

"Implementation of a Quality Management System has further enhanced the operation of our drinking water system by identifying operational efficiencies and effectively managing risks, enhancing staff knowledge, and creating public awareness of our commitment to provide safe drinking water."
— Tony Santos, Supervisor, Environment Division, City of Thunder Bay.

Drinking Water Standards keep us on track

Keeping Ontario's drinking water safe is a complex business that is tightly monitored. There are 158 health-based quality standards that set limits for contaminants in drinking water. The Advisory Council on Drinking Water Quality and Testing Standards provides advice on drinking water standards and testing issues. The Council continues to review and provide advice on scientific and technological issues related to our drinking water safety net and new developments in other jurisdictions. For more information and to access a copy of their report, go to **www.odwac.gov.on.ca**.

Ontario is increasingly Well Aware

Private well water is a significant water source for many Ontarians. Green Communities Canada won the 2009 Sustainable Community Award for its Well Aware program, which educates well owners on how to protect and take care of their groundwater. The ministry has provided funding for Well Aware and the educational tools they use to reach private well owners. Well Aware operates in partnership with 12 local community groups to deliver their program across Ontario. For more information go to **www.wellaware.ca**.

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre: A pivotal link in training and education

Our Walkerton Clean Water Centre's state-of-the-art facility provides training, research and technological excellence related to drinking water. The Centre delivers operator certification training and training to many municipal drinking water system owners and operating authorities on the licensing program.

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre also continues to work with First Nations communities to provide their operators with updated training. First Nations operators are attending courses at the facility in Walkerton and mobile units also provide training in small, remote and First Nations communities. For more information, please go to **www.wcwc.ca**.

You *Can* Make a Difference

Get conservation wise outdoors.

- Get a rain barrel and save rainwater for your garden
- Install a timer on your sprinkler and don't "water the driveway"
- Add mulch to slow down water evaporation from the soil

Working Together to Achieve High Performance Results

The results are in — drinking water performance continues to excel

"91 per cent of Ontarians are confident in the safety and quality of drinking water."

— Fourth Annual Canadian Water Attitudes Study, March 2011.

Key Achievements

- 99.88 per cent of drinking water tests from municipal residential systems met the ministry's stringent standards
- 59 per cent of municipal residential drinking water systems achieved inspection ratings of 100 per cent — a 26 per cent increase over five years

My ministry and our partners are committed to maintaining the most stringent testing and inspection processes possible and the results speak for themselves.

Major water system results tell an impressive story

Our drinking water continues to be of high quality as reported in the 2009-2010 Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Report, released March 23, 2011 [**www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STDPROD_083948.html**]. Laboratories submitted more than 645,000 drinking water test results on behalf of drinking water systems from across Ontario. Ontarians' drinking water, which they count on every day, met our stringent drinking water standards including:

- 99.88 per cent of drinking water tests from municipal residential drinking water systems — these results have been consistently strong over the past six years
- 99.51 per cent of drinking water tests from non-municipal year-round residential systems, such as mobile home parks
- 99.49 per cent of drinking water tests from non-residential and seasonal residential systems serving designated facilities such as day nurseries, schools and health centres.

Inspection results of your drinking systems continue to improve

As part of our thorough process, we ensure all 693 municipal residential drinking water systems were inspected. Again, impressive gains have been made:

- 59 per cent of municipal residential drinking water systems achieved inspection ratings of 100 per cent — a 26 per cent increase over five years
- 84 per cent of these ratings were 95 per cent or higher.

We share a common commitment to excellence and continue to work toward the goal of 100 per cent compliance.

Overview of drinking water testing laboratory inspections

Laboratories licensed and eligible to test drinking water across Ontario are routinely inspected to ensure compliance with their obligations to provide accurate drinking water sampling results to drinking water system owners:

- All 52 licensed laboratories were inspected at least twice for a total of 104 inspections (with 50 per cent of those inspections as unannounced visits).

Summary of violations

If a drinking water system, school, day nursery or licensed laboratory owner is in violation, we help ensure that corrective action is taken and, where necessary, we undertake enforcement action. Examples of violations include a failure to report low chlorine levels or using unlicensed methods for drinking water analysis.

- There were eight cases involving convictions at 10 sites with fines of $46,750.

What's New on the Water Front

Key Achievement

We are safeguarding public health by monitoring our water sources. With our partners, we are developing a new test using advanced technology to detect adenoviruses in source and treated water.

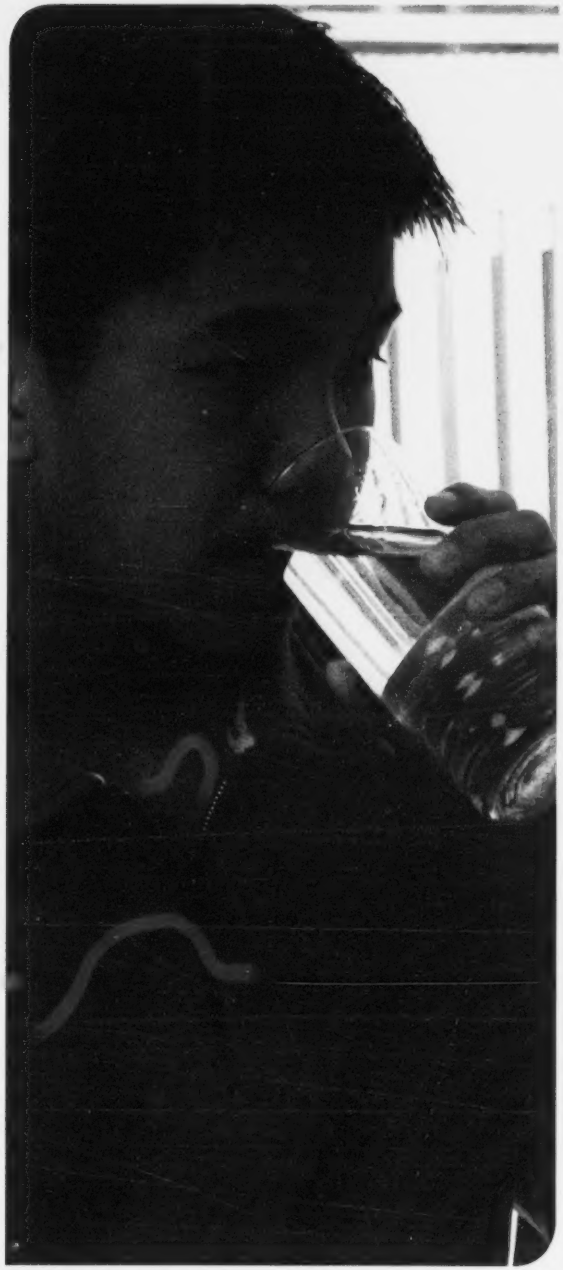
Science and water go hand in hand. The McGuinty Government is constantly at the forefront of examining the effect of viruses and bacteria in our environment to help keep our water supplies clean and safe.

Our scientists are committed to keeping Ontario's water safe by staying on top of any emerging issues, tracking existing health-based issues and exploring new technologies.

Adenoviruses in source waters

Adenoviruses can be found in source water and can cause illnesses such as diarrhea, common colds and eye infections. Chlorine disinfection easily kills adenoviruses, and this is how most large municipal water systems clean their water. However, many small and non-municipal drinking water systems disinfect their drinking water using other methods, such as ultraviolet light. Adenoviruses are resistant to ultra-violet light.

To assist these small systems in detecting whether adenoviruses may be present, we are currently collaborating with the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion to develop a test, the first of its kind, using advanced technology to detect the adenovirus in source water. This will help to identify which small drinking water systems require additional treatment to eradicate adenoviruses.



A new generation of membrane technology

Another important advance is membrane technology that gives us new and cost-effective solutions. The McGuinty Government is investing in this technology by undertaking research using different types of membranes.

Membrane technology examines the use of new kinds of filtration methods that can achieve remarkable results in producing clean water. Our scientists have joined forces with the University of Ottawa and the National University of Singapore to further develop special membranes that can be used for water and wastewater treatment. Early results indicate that they work as excellent filters and are a good alternative for removing volatile organic compounds from water or wastewater.

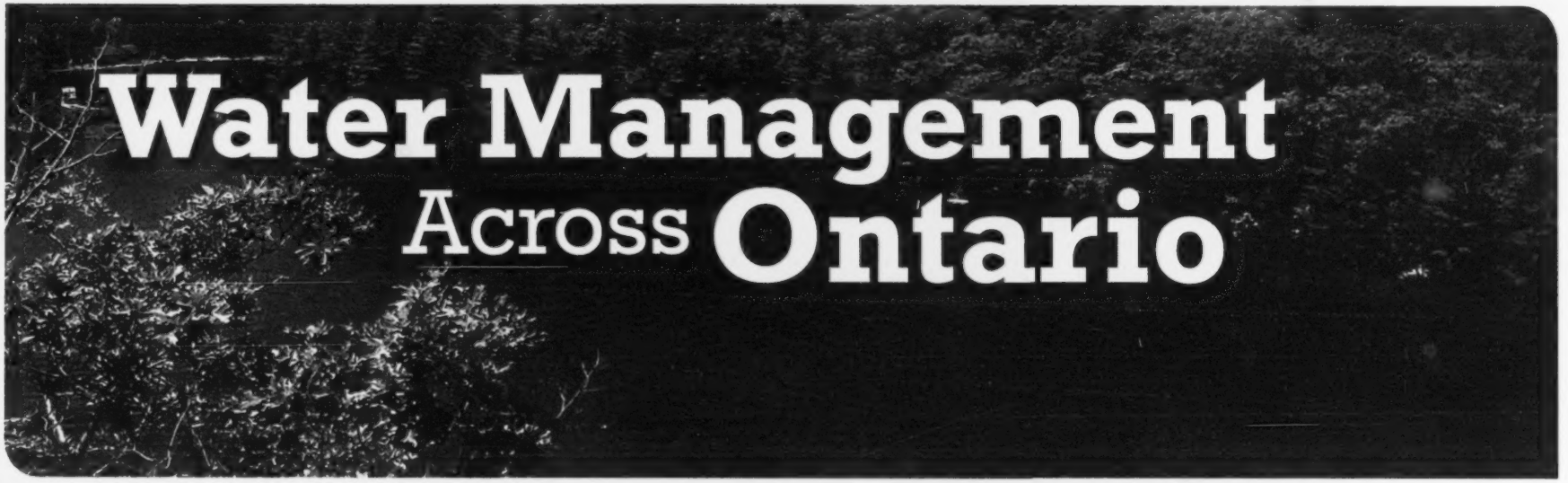
The final outcomes of this research should help us pave the way for future innovative treatment methods.

Algal toxins — blue-green algae monitored closely on lakes and rivers

Blue-green algae can form into "blooms" on lakes and rivers in summer and early fall. Algal blooms may contain a type of bacteria that can produce toxins harmful to humans, pets and livestock. In Ontario, microcystins are the most common toxins in these algae. To protect the public, algal blooms are monitored and tested for toxins.

In 2010, no microcystins whatsoever were detected in the drinking water samples. We used a screening technique to look at both untreated source water and drinking water. The results showed generally low levels of microcystins in untreated samples taken from the lakes we monitored. This is consistent with past findings, and helps confirm that our drinking water is safe and that drinking water treatment technology used in systems is working.

My ministry is collaborating with Health Canada to evaluate the effectiveness of fast tests for the presence of microcystins when blooms occur. These tests would provide an additional tool for drinking water system operators to identify and assess any potential threats and could be performed in the field.



Water Management Across Ontario

Creating Water Opportunities, Conserving Water Resources

Clean water is vital to our well-being. The Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act builds on Ontario's expertise in water protection services and technology. The purpose of the act is to make Ontario the leading clean water jurisdiction in North America.

Building Ontario's leadership in the water industry

The Water Technology Acceleration Project (WaterTAP) was created under the Water Opportunities Act. WaterTAP will act as a technology hub that brings together industry, academics and government to develop and promote Ontario's water sector. It will also help international investors and potential customers find services and expertise in Ontario. These are steps that have the potential to create more jobs in the growing global market

Key Achievement

The groundbreaking Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act was passed by the Ontario Legislature in November 2010. It lays the groundwork for a strong future for water protection and innovation in Ontario.

"Visionary legislation — forward-thinking in its support of technology development and comprehensive in its approach to conservation."

— Water's Next, January/February 2011 Water Canada.

Growing our water opportunities

"Building on our history of developing industry changing innovations and introducing stronger conservation practices will benefit all Ontarians through economic growth while giving us the tools to significantly reduce our overall water footprint." — David Henderson, Managing Director, XPV Capital Corporation.

Water is big business. The Conference Board of Canada estimates the global market in 2008 for water and wastewater was in excess of $400 billion, and growing steadily. Because of its expertise and experience, Ontario is a natural leader in the world of water management. **The Water Opportunity for Ontario** report outlined recommendations that have been built into the Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act.

The report, developed by the Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement and the XPV Capital Corporation, suggests that by the year 2015 Ontario can be recognized as a global centre of water excellence and a world-class provider of technologies, services and know-how for innovative and sustainable water solutions. Ontario can implement water solutions to meet domestic needs and develop lucrative exports to global markets. For a copy of the report, go to **https://bloom.box.net/shared/static/g5uleo181bb2yp1lsys5.pdf**.

for clean water technology and services and support business development in the province. For more information, go to **www.mri.gov.on.ca/english/programs/Water.asp**.

The Water Opportunities Act also contains a strong conservation focus. It provides for the implementation of a number of innovative approaches to encourage Ontarians to use water more efficiently and help protect it. These approaches include introducing water efficiency standards for consumer products, setting water use goals and requiring standardized information about water use. The act will also strengthen sustainable municipal water planning by helping local operators identify and plan for long-term infrastructure needs. You can read the act at **www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_10w19_e.htm#BK9**.

You *Can* Make a Difference

Rethink your water use — it is a precious resource. Only one per cent of the water in the Great Lakes is replenished every year.

- Install low-flow toilets and showerheads
- Completely fill the dishwasher before running it

Charting the Path for Water Safety

This is the fifth year we have been reporting on Ontario's drinking water and water activities and we've seen significant shifts in the water landscape since the first minister's report in 2007.

Improving the protection of our water sources

We started by reporting that the Clean Water Act had been enacted and that a framework for protecting drinking water sources and source protection planning had been established.

We now have a system in which all 19 locally-driven Source Protection Committees are operational and have successfully submitted their 38 risk assessment reports. They are now one step away from completing their final protection plans.

Providing clean, safe drinking water

We started by reporting that the Safe Drinking Water Act was working and that we were helping to ensure the delivery of safe drinking water to communities by developing effective programs and innovative strategies for improvement.

We are implementing our municipal licensing program for drinking water systems, continuously improving operations of these high-performing systems, and effectively supporting municipal system owners and operators. Our programs are recognized as world-class.

Becoming a clean water capital in North America

We started by reporting that we were committed to providing safe drinking water for Ontarians and were open to developing new technologies.

The McGuinty Government introduced the Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act, which was passed by the Ontario Legislature, to make sure the tools and support are in place for Ontario companies to develop new technologies and services for water conservation and treatment.

Building climate change into our planning

We started by reporting that we were considering climate change impacts on Ontario's drinking water under the Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem.

We now have a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan that lays a solid foundation to address climate change impacts to Ontario's water.

Protecting and restoring Ontario's water ecosystems

We started by reporting that we were considering ways in which we could protect critical water resources in Ontario.

We have created the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, which serves as a model for water protection and phosphorus reduction work.

Renewing our Great Lakes Agreement

Ontario and Canada work together to protect Great Lakes water quality through the 2007 Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem. Ontario and Canada have agreed to a second extension of this agreement through to June 24, 2012. It also helps Canada deliver on its commitments under the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

Taking Action on Climate Change

There is no question global climate change will have an impact on Ontario's source water. The McGuinty Government is addressing climate change issues and adaptation for Ontario in a number of ways.

Key Achievement

The Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative is an initiative by the province, the federal government and other partners, to help Ontario communities prepare for and respond to climate change.

It is critical that governments at all levels begin to build climate change considerations into their decisions at the same time as we address mitigation.

Taking action in a changing landscape

With the release of Climate Ready: Ontario's Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2014 in April 2011, we are establishing a framework for action that will help Ontario adapt to a changing climate. We are highlighting steps Ontario is taking to ensure that we are well prepared for the challenges changing weather will bring and are in a position to take advantage of opportunities. You can read the report at **www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STDPROD_081665.html**.

In January 2011, our government announced the 3-year **Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative**, a series of projects that will help communities tackle climate change impacts. One goal is to help municipalities apply climate change considerations to decisions about managing water resources. This collaborative will help integrate climate change considerations into key aspects of managing water resources including: protecting source water, responding to low-water levels, flood or drought and managing stormwater. Solutions will be shared to ensure that communities are better prepared for the challenges of managing water resources in a changing climate

Reducing Toxic Substances

Toxics Reduction Strategy puts Ontario on the cutting edge of "green"

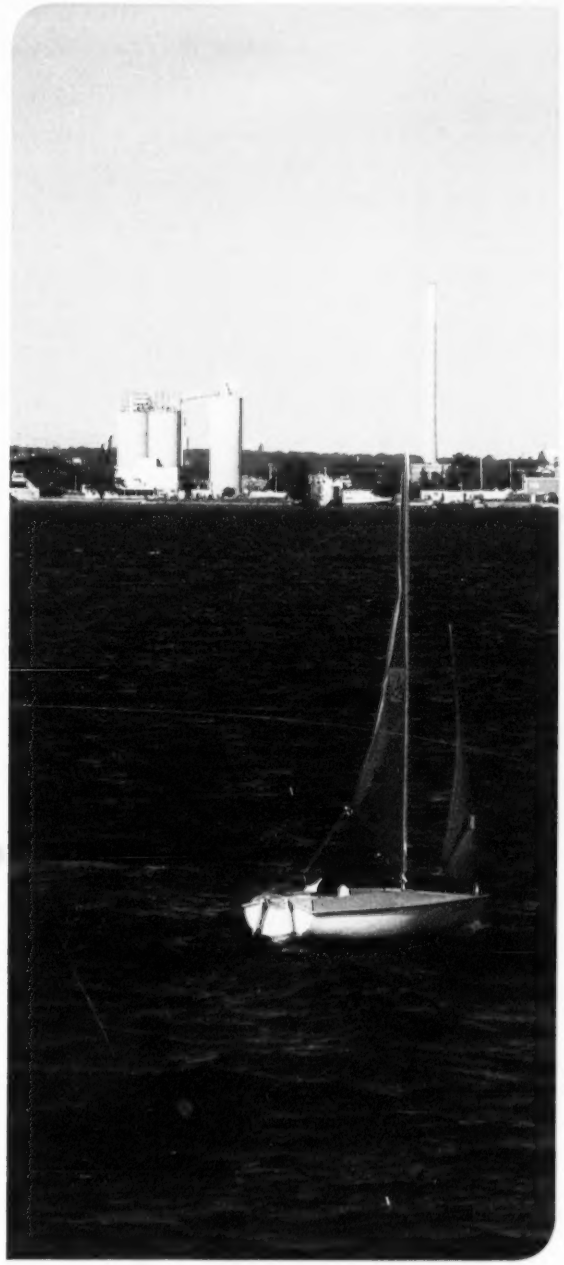
The McGuinty government is focused on supporting healthier communities and reducing toxic substances entering our water, air and land. The Toxics Reduction Act, passed by the Ontario Legislature, is the cornerstone of Ontario's Toxics Reduction Strategy. It is an innovative approach to reducing or eliminating the use and creation of toxic substances in the manufacturing process and supplements the traditional waste treatment approach to managing toxic substances released into the environment. Facilities are required to prepare toxics reduction plans after considering ways to reduce these substances. The act provides flexibility for the plans in recognition that there may be essential and beneficial uses of some prescribed substances. We are working with facilities as they account and report on toxics substances and prepare reduction plans.

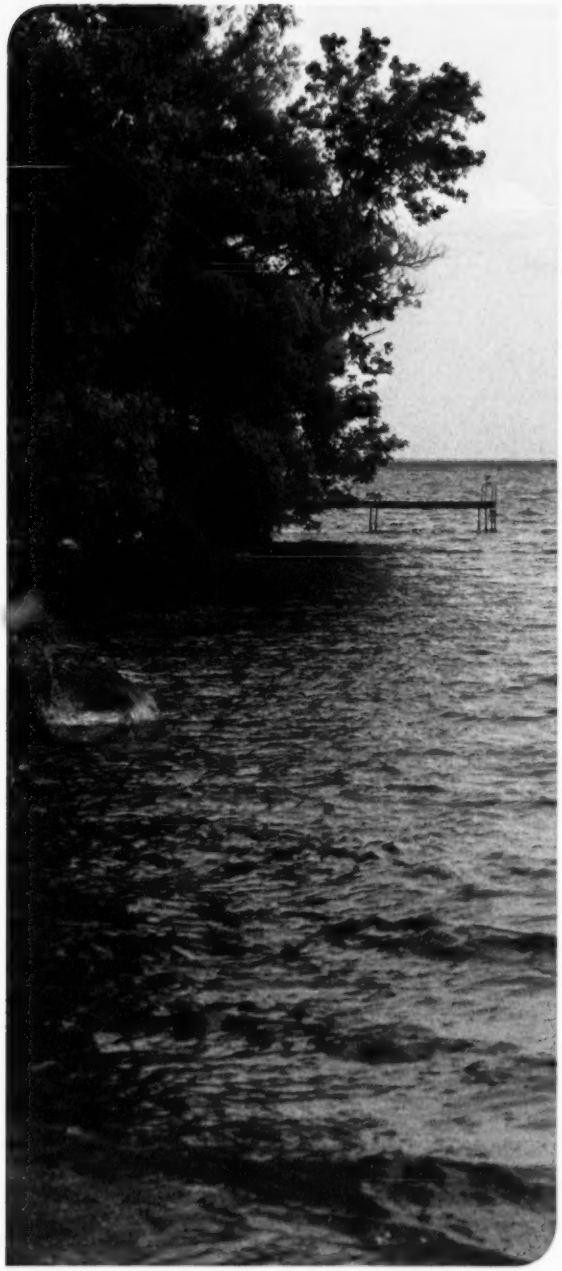
Our government has also invested in GreenCentre Canada, a green technology consortium located at Queen's University that connects green chemistry discoveries in Ontario universities with companies so they can develop alternatives to toxic chemicals and get them to the marketplace faster.

Cosmetic pesticides have been banned in Ontario since April 2009. Early studies indicate that in just one year, Ontario's urban streams show an 80 percent reduction in three cosmetic pesticides commonly used in lawn care products.

"The Toxics Reduction Act has the potential to improve business practices and profits in Ontario while protecting human health and the environment in new ways which could include the creation of new jobs, innovations in pollution prevention and other efficiencies such as significant reduction of hazardous waste."

— Canadian Environmental Law Association, January 31, 2011 response to Environmental Bill of Rights Registry Number 011-1191 — Amendments to O. Reg. 455/09.





Protecting Lake Simcoe

A major watershed gets a new lease on life

I released my first minister's report on Lake Simcoe in January 2011. It outlines the comprehensive action we have taken to restore the health of the lake and its fish populations. I am pleased to report that we have addressed all the commitments made for the first year of implementing the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan and are moving forward on the second year targets.

Lake Simcoe is an example of how the ministry can work with communities to achieve great results. Our goal is to reduce

We are on track to have 85 per cent of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan policies implemented by the end of summer 2011. The goal of our Phosphorus Reduction Strategy is to reduce phosphorus from 72 tonnes per year to 44.

I am very proud of the work we have done in the Lake Simcoe watershed and the way in which everyone who has a stake in its restoration has come together to produce tangible results.

You *Can* Make a Difference

Be water wise — it is easy to conserve water. The average Ontarian uses about 260 litres of water each day — U.K. residents use just 150 litres.

- Fix leaky taps
- Wash only full loads in the clothes washer
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth

phosphorus levels by almost 40 per cent and restore the cold water fishery.

We have worked collaboratively with farmers and the agricultural sector, as well as local residents, so everyone can play a role in protecting this unique and valuable watershed. For more information, visit **www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/resources/STDPROD_081597.html.**

Improving Water Infrastructure

Safe, clean and reliable water for rural and Northern Ontario

Our government is helping families in small, rural and Northern communities receive clean, safe, reliable and affordable water and wastewater services by providing the third phase of the Ontario Small Waterworks Assistance Program.

The program encourages small municipalities to improve water conservation and efficiency in their water and wastewater systems through projects such as fixing leaking pipes, installing water meters and promoting more collaboration between small communities.

Closing Message

Water is a vital component of a healthy community and can also play a significant role in the economic health of our province. From staying at the forefront of scientific discoveries, to working with our many partners at the local level, we remain committed to protecting the quality of our drinking water through innovative and progressive initiatives and partnerships. I urge everyone who counts on clean water every day to do their part to guard this precious resource.

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